



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

16 September 2015

Top Stories

- New York officials conducted an inspection September 14 on rail cars and tracks across the State and found 95 defects. – *Albany Times Union* (See item [8](#))
- Classes were cancelled September 15 at Delta State University in Mississippi after a teacher shot and killed his live-in girlfriend September 14 and then shot and killed another teacher at the university's Cleveland campus before dying from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. – *Jackson Clarion-Ledger; USA Today* (See item [13](#))
- Two high school students in Houston, Texas, were killed and 2 others were hurt along with the bus driver September 15 after their school bus was involved in an accident. – *Houston Chronicle* (See item [14](#))
- Security researchers discovered attacks across multiple industries and government agencies on 3 continents in which Cisco 1841, 2811, and 3825 routers were implanted with the SYNful Knock malware. – *Reuters* (See item [21](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *September 14, Springfield State Journal-Register* – (Illinois) **Settlement reached in Carlinville mine contamination case.** Macoupin Energy LLC reached a settlement September 14 with the Illinois attorney general's office resolving groundwater-quality violations at the Shay No. 1 Coal Mine in Macoupin County, requiring the company to pay a \$100,000 civil penalty, fund 2 supplemental environmental projects, and prevent the spread of mining waste contaminants from 2 disposal areas into groundwater.
Source: <http://www.sj-r.com/article/20150914/NEWS/150919747>
2. *September 14, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Pennsylvania agency announces \$2.5M settlement over spill.** The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission reached a \$2.5 million settlement September 14 with Murray Energy over a September 2009 spill of discharge from coal mine into Dunkard Creek, killing an estimated 43,000 fish, 15,000 mussels, and 6,500 mudpuppies. The energy company stated that it was not involved in the event, and blamed the discharge on a naturally occurring golden algae bloom.
Source: http://www.journalreview.com/news/article_93dd7ab5-fee5-5ab2-bda2-aa6839c4c82f.html

Chemical Industry Sector

3. *September 14, KPRC 2 Houston* – (Texas) **Chemical leak at plant near Pasadena.** Texas officials reported September 14 that an unknown amount of propylene leaked from the Flint Hill Resources Houston plant, prompting a controlled shutdown while HAZMAT crews and emergency responders cleaned and repaired the leak. All employees were accounted for and no injuries were reported.
Source: <http://www.click2houston.com/news/chemical-leak-at-plant-near-pasadena/35266258>

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

Nothing to report

Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

Financial Services Sector

4. *September 15, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **FirstBank warns customers some local ATMs had illegal “skimmers.”** FirstBank notified an undetermined number of customers that their accounts may have been breached after the bank found skimming

devices on ATMs inside grocery stores at University Blvd in Englewood, E. Ninth Avenue in Denver, and 30th Street in Boulder. The bank has issued new cards to users and older cards will no longer work starting September 15.

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/business/ci_28811727/firstbank-warns-customers-some-local-atms-had-illegal

5. *September 14, Reuters* – (National) **U.S. charges two more in multimillion-dollar text message fraud.** Two men were charged on September 14 for allegedly helping a “cramming” scheme which involved charging thousands of unsuspecting mobile phone users \$9.99 a month for unsolicited texts from 2011 - 2013 by using their positions as mobile aggregator executives to continue and protect the scheme. Six other suspects were previously charged in connection to the scheme.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/09/14/usa-crime-textmessaging-idUSL1N11K1YX20150914>

Transportation Systems Sector

6. *September 15, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **Two people die in fiery wreck on Ga. 316 in Oconee County.** Eastbound lanes of Ga. 316 in Oconee County were shut down for approximately 6 hours September 14 after a fatal collision occurred when a vehicle rear ended a semi-truck hauling a large spool of paper, causing 1 vehicle to catch fire. Both the driver and passenger in the vehicle died at the scene.
Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/news/state-regional/two-dead-in-wreck-on-ga-316-in-oconee-county/nnfbr/>
7. *September 14, WCBI 15 Columbus* – (Alabama) **Highway 82 reopens in Pickens County, Alabama.** Highway 82 in Pickens County, Alabama reopened September 14 after closing for several hours when a semi-truck carrying 9,000 gallons of fuel overturned and spilled up to 300 gallons of fuel onto the roadway. The driver was sent to a surrounding hospital and officials reported clean-up efforts were in process.
Source: <http://www.wcbi.com/local-news/gasoline-tanker-overturns-in-pickens-county-highway-82-shutdown/>
8. *September 14, Albany Times Union* – (New York) **Inspectors find four ‘critical’ safety defects on CSX tracks.** New York Department of Transportation and the U.S. Federal Railroad Administration conducted an inspection September 14 on rail cars and tracks across the State and found 95 defects, 4 of which were considered critical including damaged hazardous materials placards, thin brake shoes, and inoperative lights, among other findings. Railroads were given 30 days to repair noncritical defects.
Source: <http://blog.timesunion.com/business/inspectors-find-four-critical-safety-defects-on-csx-tracks/68925/>

Food and Agriculture Sector

9. *September 14, WTOP 103.5 Washington* – (Virginia) **Two charged with Harris Teeter bomb threats.** Police authorities reported September 14 that 2 men were arrested and charged September 11 for a series of alleged bomb threats targeting a

Harris Teeter in Alexandria, Virginia, after the grocery store received five bomb threats from April – July, prompting all customers and employees to evacuate during each occurrence.

Source: <http://wtop.com/alexandria/2015/09/two-charged-with-harris-teeter-bomb-threats/>

For another story, see item [2](#)

Water and Wastewater Systems Sector

10. *September 15, Cherokee County News Advocate* – (Kansas) **Boil water advisory issued for Cherokee County.** The Kansas Department of Health and Environment issued a boil water advisory September 15 for residents in Cherokee County, Kansas, after a planned loss of pressure was scheduled due to system maintenance. The advisory will be in effect until pressure is restored and all other conditions are deemed resolved.
Source: http://www.sekvoice.com/sekvoice/article_77c57bf2-239d-55db-8531-773d03a48a61.html
11. *September 15, WIS 10 Columbia* – (South Carolina) **Boil water advisory issued for Ripley Station Road.** The City of Columbia Water Works issued a boil water advisory September 14 for residents in Lexington County, South Carolina after an 8-inch water line ruptured in nearby areas. Crews were working to repair the break.
Source: <http://www.wistv.com/story/30029244/boil-water-advisory-issued-for-ripley-station-road>
12. *September 14, Nexstar Broadcasting Group* – (Iowa) **Power outage causes wastewater discharge in Burlington.** Burlington, Iowa officials reported September 14 that its wastewater treatment plant discharged 27,000 gallons of partially treated wastewater into the Mississippi River September 12 after a power outage shut off all pumps, causing the wastewater to fill and overflow from the processing tanks. An investigation remains ongoing to determine why the breaker tripped and how to mitigate future occurrences.
Source: <http://www.ourquadcities.com/news/power-outage-causes-wastewater-discharge-in-burlington>

For additional stories, see items [1](#) and [2](#)

Healthcare and Public Health Sector

Nothing to report

Government Facilities Sector

13. *September 15, Jackson Clarion-Ledger; USA Today* – (Mississippi) **Police: Delta State killer turned gun on himself.** Classes were cancelled September 15 at Delta State University in Mississippi after a teacher shot and killed his live-in girlfriend in Gautier

September 14 and then shot and killed another teacher at the university's Cleveland campus before apparently dying from a self-inflicted gunshot wound when he was confronted by police. The university was placed on lockdown and students were dismissed while police pursued the teacher.

Source: <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2015/09/14/mississippi-shooter-delta-state-university/72255856/>

14. *September 15, Houston Chronicle* – (Texas) **2 students dead, 2 others and bus driver injured as school bus plummets from 610 loop in Houston.** Two Furr High School students were killed and 2 others were hurt along with the bus driver September 15 after their school bus reportedly overcorrected when it was struck by another vehicle and careened from the overpass, plunging from the 640 Loop in southeast Houston.
Source: <http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/school-bus-crash-along-south-loop/ar-AAejauv>
15. *September 15, Charlotte Observer* – (North Carolina) **CMS alerts 7,600 job applicants to personal data breach.** Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools in North Carolina notified approximately 7,600 job applicants September 11 that their personal information, including Social Security numbers, were destroyed after being inadvertently shared with an outside contractor without prior consent. The district reported September 15 that one of its employees entered into an agreement with a third-party vendor without obtaining appropriate authorization, and released confidential data without consent.
Source: <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/education/article35300451.html>
16. *September 14, KGO 7 San Francisco* – (California) **Resources: Valley Fire evacuation centers, school closures in Lake County, Napa County.** Several school districts in Lake and Napa counties in California were closed September 15 through September 21 due to the Valley Fire which has destroyed at least 1,000 homes and forced more than 17,000 people to evacuate.
Source: <http://abc7news.com/news/valley-fire-evacuation-centers-school-closures---resources-and%20info/982676/>
17. *September 14, Torrance Daily Breeze* – (California) **Report of white powder in envelope forces evacuation of Inglewood courthouse.** The Inglewood courthouse in California was evacuated for more than 2 hours September 14 after an individual felt a burning sensation when coming into contact with an envelope containing an unknown white powder. Fourteen people were decontaminated before authorities determined that the envelope did not contain a hazardous substance.
Source: <http://www.dailybreeze.com/general-news/20150914/report-of-white-powder-in-envelope-forces-evacuation-of-inglewood-courthouse>
18. *September 14, WLKY 32 Louisville* – (Kentucky) **Six children taken to hospital following school bus accident.** Six students were transported to an area hospital with minor injuries after a Jefferson County Public School bus hit another vehicle on the ramp from Taylor Boulevard to the Watterson Expressway in Louisville September 14.

Source: <http://www.wlky.com/news/injury-accident-involving-jcps-bus-at-taylor-blvd-i264/35260576>

For another story, see item [21](#)

Emergency Services Sector

Nothing to report

Information Technology Sector

19. *September 15, Help Net Security* – (International) **The rise of repeated “low and slow” DDoS attacks.** Neustar released research findings revealing an increase in small, repeated distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks from 2014 to early 2015, with 54 percent of companies surveyed being hit by at least 6 attacks. Research also found that the duration of DDoS attacks is increasing, with 10 percent of attacks lasting about a week, among other findings.
Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=18853>
20. *September 15, Securityweek* – (International) **Popular mobile travel apps have critical security issues: Report.** Bluebox Security released report findings revealing that the top ten most popular mobile travel applications contain critical flaws, including failures to encrypt sensitive data stored on mobile devices, a lack of certificate pinning which leaves users vulnerable to man-in-the-middle (MitM) attacks, and a lack of anti-tampering measures, among other findings.
Source: <http://www.securityweek.com/popular-mobile-travel-apps-have-critical-security-issues-report>
21. *September 15, Reuters* – (International) **Cisco router break-ins bypass cyber defenses.** Security researchers from FireEye discovered attacks in August across multiple industries and government agencies on three continents in which Cisco 1841, 2811, and 3825 routers were implanted with the sophisticated SYNful Knock malware, which can duplicate normal router functions and jump from router to router using device syndication functions. Researchers believe attackers accessed the devices by stealing valid network administration credentials or by gaining direct physical access.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/09/15/us-cybersecurity-routers-cisco-systems-idUSKCN0RF0N420150915>
22. *September 14, Securityweek* – (International) **TLS communications exposed to KCI attacks: Researchers.** Security researchers from Research Industrial Systems Engineering revealed that a flaw in the Transport Layer Security (TLS) protocol could be leveraged to execute a Key Compromise Impersonation (KCI) attack, allowing a man-in-the-middle (MitM) attacker to take over client-side code running on a victim’s browser, intercept communications, arbitrarily replace Web site content, and perform actions on the victim’s behalf.
Source: <http://www.securityweek.com/tls-communications-exposed-kci-attacks-researchers>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <http://www.it-isac.org>

Communications Sector

23. *September 14, WOWK 13 Huntington* – (West Virginia) **Copper theft impacts hundreds of Frontier customers.** A Frontier Communication official reported that approximately 600 customers in Kanawha County, West Virginia, were left without Internet and phone service September 14 following a September 7 incident in which thousands of copper cables were stolen and fiber cables cut. An investigation is ongoing to find the culprit.
Source: <http://www.wowktv.com/story/30028859/copper-theft-impacts-hundreds-of-frontier-customers>

Commercial Facilities Sector

24. *September 14, Bay City News* – (California) **Fire at Santa Rosa Junior College causes \$500,000 in damage.** A September 14 fire heavily damaged a one-story building that contains heating and cooling system at the Santa Rosa Junior College in California, causing an estimated \$500,000 in damages. The cause of the fire is under investigation.
Source: [http://abc7news.com/news/fire-at-santa-rosa-junior-college-causes-\\$500k-in-damage/984003/](http://abc7news.com/news/fire-at-santa-rosa-junior-college-causes-$500k-in-damage/984003/)
25. *September 14, WLBT 3 Jackson* – (Mississippi) **Employee embezzlement a problem for Madison Home Depot.** Three employees of the Madison Home Depot store were arrested September 14 for allegedly embezzling over \$1,000 since February 2014 after an on-going investigation revealed fraudulent customer sales orders and invoices were generated by several employees for merchandise in the store while other accomplices would accept the stolen merchandise. Further charges of embezzlement are still being investigated.
Source: <http://www.msnewsnow.com/story/30029934/employee-embezzlement-a-problem-for-madison-home-depot>
26. *September 13, WHDH 7 Boston; Sunbeam Television* – (Massachusetts) **Chelsea apartment evacuated after flooding.** At least 150 people were evacuated from an apartment building in Chelsea, Massachusetts, September 12 after an opened valve flooded the complex and caused an estimated \$400,000 in damages. An investigation is ongoing to determine who opened the valve.
Source: <http://www.whdh.com/story/30017461/chelsea-apartment-evacuated-after-flooding>

Dams Sector

Nothing to report



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